

Service contact—service duration, total minutes NNN

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Service contact—service duration, total minutes NNN

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Service contact duration
METEOR identifier:	744347
Registration status:	Health! , Standard 17/12/2021
Definition:	The total time in minutes from the start to finish of a service contact.
Data Element Concept:	Service contact—service duration
Value Domain:	Total minutes NNN

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total
Data type:	Number
Format:	NNN
Maximum character length:	3
Unit of measure:	Minute (m)

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
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Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Service contacts where care delivery is reviewed and the patient/client is absent, such as case conferences or multidisciplinary reviews, are regarded as individual sessions. The time spent discussing each client should be recorded separately where possible. Where recording of session duration for each client is not possible, the total time for the discussion should be apportioned evenly between the number of clients discussed. For example, for a discussion of one hour, during which 6 clients were discussed, a 10 minute session duration would be recorded for each client.

For group sessions the time for the patient/client in the session is recorded for each patient/client, regardless of the number of patients/clients or third parties participating or the number of service providers providing the service.

Writing up details of service contacts is not to be reported as part of the duration, except if during or contiguous with the period of patient/client or third party participation.

Travel to or from the location at which the service is provided, for example to or from outreach facilities or private homes, is not to be reported as part of the duration of the service contact.

Collection methods: For the purposes of activity based funding reporting, this data element can be derived from existing data elements.

[Mental health service contact—service duration, total minutes NNN](#)

Comments: Counting the duration for each patient/client in a group session means that this data element cannot be used to measure the duration of service contacts from the perspective of the service provider.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Service contact—service duration, Total minutes NNN Health!](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Activity based funding: Mental health care NBEDS 2022–23 Health!](#), Standard 17/12/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2022

Implementation end date: 30/06/2023

Conditional obligation:

This data element is only required to be reported for patients with an ambulatory mental health episode of care.